

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
ALL NATO CAPITALS
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USNMR SHAPE BE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 USNATO 04720

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: DPC, MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE: 1ST REVISE

REF: USNATO 4593 (DTG 081757Z MAY 28)

.
1. THERE FOLLOWS IN PARAGRAPH 2 BELOW THE FIRST REVISE
OF THE DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE, WHICH THE
DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE WILL ADDRESS MAY 16. (THE PRO-
POSED ANNEX ON THE LTDP IS UNCHANGED FROM THAT REPORTED
IN REF A.) OUR COMMENT WILL FOLLOW SEPTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF FIRST REVISE OF DRAFT COMMUNIQUE:

. 1. THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH
ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION MET IN MINISTERIAL SESSION
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IN BRUSSELS ON 18TH AND 19TH MAY, 1978.

. 2. DEFENCE MINISTERS CONDUCTED THEIR DISCUSSIONS
AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE MAJOR POLITICAL AND DEFENCE
ISSUES, INCLUDING FUTURE TRENDS IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS
AND PROSPECTS FOR ALLIANCE COOPERATION IN DEFENCE PRO-
CUREMENT, WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE NATO MEETING

OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT TO TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON ON 30TH AND 31ST MAY. IN PREPARATION FOR THAT MEETING, THEY APPROVED, FOR ONWARD TRANSMISSION TO HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, A REPORT ON THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME WHICH HAD BEEN COMMISSIONED AT THE LONDON SUMMIT MEETING IN MAY 1977.

. 3. MINISTERS REAFFIRMED THE POLITICAL RESOLVE EXPRESSED BY NATIONS AT THE SUMMIT IN MAY 1977 TO MEET THE CHALLENGE TO THEIR SECURITY POSED BY THE CONTINUING MOMENTUM OF THE WARSAW PACT BUILD-UP. THE RESULTING WIDENING DISPARITY IN CONVENTIONAL MILITARY CAPABILITIES BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT HAS LED COUNTRIES TO PLACE EMPHASIS ON CONVENTIONAL FORCE IMPROVEMENTS AND ESPECIALLY ON NATO'S ABILITY TO RESPOND TO AN ATTACK BY READY FORCES AFTER VERY LITTLE WARNING. IN THIS CONTEXT THEY NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT ALMOST ALL COUNTRIES HAD INDICATED THEIR INTENTION TO ADJUST THEIR FINANCIAL PLANS FOR DEFENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH A THREE PER CENT ANNUAL INCREASE IN REAL TERMS CALLED FOR IN THE 1977 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE; AND THAT THIS WELCOME DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTED A MAJOR ADVANCE COMPARED WITH THE NATIONAL POSITIONS THAT HAD BEEN REPORTED IN THE 1977 NATO DEFENCE REVIEW.

. 4. WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK, MINISTERS REVIEWED THE OVERALL SECURITY OF THE ALLIANCE IN THE LIGHT OF EVENTS
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WHICH HAD OCCURRED SINCE THEIR LAST MEETING. IN PARTICULAR, THEY CONSIDERED THE PRESENT STATE OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA AND THE RECENT WESTERN INITIATIVE INTRODUCED IN THOSE NEGOTIATIONS. THEY WERE ALSO APPRISED OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS TALKS AND REAFFIRMED THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUED CLOSE CONSULTATION IN THE ALLIANCE ON ISSUES ARISING FROM THESE TALKS. MINISTERS REAFFIRMED THEIR SUPPORT FOR MEASURES TO ACHIEVE EFFECTIVE ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGREEMENTS UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE GENERAL PURSUIT OF DETENTE, BUT THEY STRESSED THAT, IN THE FACE OF THE GROWING WARSAW PACT CAPABILITIES, NEGOTIATIONS TO THIS END MUST BE BACKED BY AN APPROPRIATE DETERRENT AND DEFENCE POSTURE.

. 5. MINISTERS HEARD A STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATO MILITARY COMMITTEE ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AND GROWTH IN THE MILITARY CAPABILITIES OF THE WARSAW PACT AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MILITARY BALANCE WITH NATO. THEY EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN THAT THE MILITARY POWER OF THE SOVIET UNION CONTINUED TO GROW, IN PARTICULAR IN ITS CAPABILITIES TO

DEPLOY NEW OFFENSIVE WEAPON SYSTEMS AGAINST THE WHOLE OF THE EUROPEAN THEATRE AND TO PROJECT ITS POWER, WHETHER DIRECTLY OR BY PROXY, ON A GLOBAL SCALE. MINISTERS DISCUSSED THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS FOR WESTERN SECURITY.

. 6. MINISTERS NOTED WITH APPROVAL THAT IMPORTANT MEASURES HAD BEEN TAKEN, OR WERE IN TRAIN, TO COUNTER THE EXISTING ADVERSE TRENDS IN THE BALANCE OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT. UNDER NATO'S ESTABLISHED DEFENCE PLANNING PROCEDURES, THEY ENDORSED

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NEW FORCE GOALS FOR THE PERIOD 1979-1984. THESE COVER THE SPECTRUM OF NATO'S FORCE REQUIREMENTS AND ARE INTERRELATED AND COMPLEMENTARY TO THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME. MINISTERS INVITED MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE NATO FORCE GOALS AS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS MEETING THE CHALLENGE POSED BY THE CONTINUING BUILD-UP OF WARSAW PACT FORCES.

. 7. MINISTERS AGREED THAT THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR PORTUGAL AND TURKEY TO RECEIVE EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE SUPPORT AND MODERNISATION OF THEIR FORCES. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT DESPITE THE SCALE OF THE EFFORTS THAT

THESE TWO COUNTRIES WERE MAKING FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO COMMON DEFENCE, IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL THE ALLIES TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO PROVIDE THE ESSENTIAL ASSISTANCE. IN THIS CONNECTION, MINISTERS NOTED WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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SATISFACTION THE INITIATIVES UNDERWAY FOR THE COMPLETE REMOVAL OF EXISTING UNITED STATES RESTRICTIONS ON THE PROCUREMENT OF DEFENCE EQUIPMENT BY TURKEY AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE FOR A SPEEDY AND POSITIVE OUTCOME TO THESE INITIATIVES.

. 8. MINISTERS REAFFIRMED THAT THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME WAS RELATED IN PARTICULAR TO THE NEED FOR A MORE COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK FOR NATO'S DEFENCE PLANNING, INCORPORATING A LONGER-TERM APPROACH, AND THUS ENABLING THE COLLECTIVE NEEDS OF THE ALLIANCE TO BE TAKEN MORE INTO ACCOUNT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL PLANS. THEY NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE MEASURES SUBMITTED TO THEM CONTRIBUTED TO THIS OBJECTIVE, BOTH IN THE PROJECTION OF NATO'S MILITARY NEEDS UP TO AND BEYOND 1990 AND THE EMPHASIS PLACED ON THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A GREATER DEGREE OF COOPERATION AND RATIONALISATION IN MEETING THOSE NEEDS. THROUGH THIS GREATER COOPERATION AND RATIONALISATION, NATO WILL ACHIEVE A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN ITS DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY FROM THE NATIONAL RESOURCES ALREADY MADE AVAILABLE OR PLANNED FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE ALLIANCE.

. 9. WITHIN THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME, MINISTERS APPROVED, OR ENDORSED FOR SUBMISSION TO HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, A WIDE RANGE OF MEASURES IN THE PRIORITY AREAS OF READINESS, REINFORCEMENT, RESERVE MOBILISATION, MARITIME POSTURE, AIR DEFENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, COMMAND AND CONTROL, ELECTRONIC WARFARE, CONSUMER LOGISTICS AND RATIONALISATION. BEGIN BRACKETS. WITHIN THESE AREAS, SPECIAL IMPORTANCE HAS BEEN ATTACHED TO ACHIEVING SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT ON LAND, AT SEA AND IN THE AIR IN THE READINESS OF NATO FORCES, PARTICULARLY THEIR AVAILABILITY AND SURVIVABILITY; IN THE ABILITY OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ALLIANCE TO REINFORCE IN A PERIOD OF CRISIS OR TENSION; IN THE AIR DEFENCE OF NATO TERRITORY AND SEA AREAS; IN COUNTERING THE ELECTRONIC WARFARE THREAT; AND IN THE PROVISION OF EFFECTIVE LOGISTIC SUPPORT FOR ALL NATO FORCES. SPECIAL EMPHASIS HAS ALSO BEEN PLACED ON IM-

PROVING NATO'S MARITIME POSTURE AND NATO'S COMMAND, CONTROL AND COMMUNICATIONS ARRANGEMENTS TO FACILITATE POLITICAL AND MILITARY DECISION-MAKING, ESPECIALLY IN TIME OF TENSION OR CRISIS. END BRACKETS. THEY ALSO ENDORSED THE CONTINUING EFFORTS OF NATO'S NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP TOWARDS MEETING MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM NEEDS FOR THE MODERNISATION OF THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES. MINISTERS HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT SUPPORT FOR THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME AS A WHOLE SHOULD BE GIVEN AT THE HIGHEST POLITICAL LEVEL BY HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT. BEGIN BRACKETS. INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAMMES APPROVED BY THE DEFENCE MINISTERS IS ATTACHED TO THIS COMMUNIQUE. END BRACKETS.

. 10. MINISTERS ALSO NOTED THAT APPROPRIATE ACTION WILL BE TAKEN BY THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN PERMANENT SESSION ON A NUMBER OF SUBSIDIARY MEASURES DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE MAIN PROGRAMMES, INCLUDING NO COST/LOW COST MEASURES WHICH, TAKEN TOGETHER, PRODUCE WORTHWHILE DEFENCE IMPROVEMENTS AT RELATIVELY SMALL COST AND ARE CAPABLE IN MANY CASES OF IMPLEMENTATION IN THE SHORT TERM. MINISTERS NOTED WITH APPROVAL THAT THE STEPS NECESSARY TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE FOLLOW-THROUGH ACTION WOULD BE INITIATED BY THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN PERMANENT SESSION FOLLOWING THE WASHINGTON SUMMIT(1).

BEGIN FOOTNOTE (1) FINAL SENTENCE TO BE REVIEWED IN THE LIGHT OF MINISTERIAL DECISION ON THE RELEVANT PARAGRAPHS IN THE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME. END FOOTNOTE.

. 11. MINISTERS HEARD WITH INTEREST A STATEMENT BY
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MR. WILLEM SCHOLTEN, DEFENCE MINISTER OF THE NETHERLANDS AND CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROGROUP THIS YEAR. THEY TOOK NOTE OF THE OUTCOME OF THE EUROGROUP'S DISCUSSIONS IN MINISTERIAL SESSION AND WELCOMED THE PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS CLOSER COLLABORATION IN THE FIELDS COVERED BY ITS

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SEVEN SUB-GROUPS. THEY REAFFIRMED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE
ROLE OF THE EUROGROUP IN FURTHERING EUROPEAN COHESION
IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE.

. 12. MINISTERS TOOK NOTE OF A REPORT BY THE CONFERENCE
OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS (CNAD) ON MAJOR ISSUES
IN THE FIELD OF EQUIPMENT COLLABORATION AND IN PARTICULAR
THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ALLIANCE TO IMPROVE THE STANDARDIZA-
TION AND/OR INTEROPERABILITY OF DEFENCE EQUIPMENT.
THEY WELCOMED ESPECIALLY THE INITIATIVES OF TEN MEMBER
NATIONS IN SIGNING AN AGREEMENT TO OBSERVE AND CONTRIBUTE
TO A DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR A HIGHLY ACCURATE
SATELLITE NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEM.

. 13. MINISTERS NOTED A REPORT ON THE NATO ARMAMENTS
PLANNING REVIEW AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF FURTHER
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STUDIES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PERIODIC ARMAMENTS
PLANNING SYSTEM.

. 14. MINISTERS EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT FOR OTHER
EFFORTS BEING MADE BY THE CNAD TOWARDS GREATER RATIONALI-
SATION IN THE EQUIPMENT AREA BOTH THROUGH THE "TRANS-
ATLANTIC DIALOGUE" AND BY IMPROVING STANDARDIZATION
AND/OR INTEROPERABILITY THROUGH COOPERATIVE EQUIPMENT
PROGRAMMES AND WELCOMED THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMES OFFERED BY THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE
PROGRAMME.

. 15. BEGIN BRACKETS. MINISTERS TOOK NOTE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE PROPOSAL FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF A FORCE OF E-3 AIRCRAFT AS A MAJOR COMPONENT OF A NATO AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING FORCE. THEY AGREED TO EXPEDITE THE REVIEW OF THIS PROPOSAL THROUGH NATIONAL CHANNELS WITH A VIEW TO FINAL RATIFICATION OF THE PROGRAMME BEFORE THE AUTUMN. THEY NOTED THAT NATO-FUNDED INITIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH A STANDARDIZED CONFIGURATION FOR UNITED STATES AND NATO E-3 AIRCRAFT WERE UNDERWAY, AND AGREED TO CONTINUE FUNDING THESE ACTIVITIES. THEY AGREED (BLANK) AS THE HOST NATION FOR THE NATO E-3 MAIN OPERATING BASE, AND COMMISSIONED PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES TO ESTABLISH THE NATO AEW PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREED CHARTER. END BRACKETS.

. 16. MINISTERS, REAFFIRMING THAT THE COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME REMAINS ONE OF NATO'S MOST EFFECTIVE COOPERATIVE DEFENCE EFFORTS, NOTED THE PROGRESS BEING MADE IN THE PREPARATION OF THE NEXT FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMME WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THEM FOR APPROVAL
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IN DECEMBER 1978. BEGIN BRACKETS. MINISTERS ALSO NOTED THE NEED FOR AN INCREASE IN THE COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCIAL CEILING TO ACCOMMODATE INFLATION AS WELL AS URGENT PROJECTS, INCLUDING ASPECTS OF THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME. END BRACKETS.

. 17. IN CONCLUSION, MINISTERS REAFFIRMED THAT THE COMMON DEFENCE OF THE ALLIANCE IS ONE AND INDIVISIBLE. THEY STRESSED THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF SECURITY IS INDISPENSABLE FOR THE CONTINUED FREEDOM, INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY AND WELFARE OF THEIR SOCIETIES AND FOR THE FURTHERING OF DETENTE. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE BASIS OF ALLIANCE SECURITY LAY IN THE POLITICAL SOLIDARITY AND RESOLVE OF THE MEMBER NATIONS AND THE SCALE OF EFFORT THEY WERE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE FOR THE COMMON DEFENCE.
END TEXT. BENNETT

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